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DEPT FOR EUR/SCE SSHIRATORI AND WTOMLYANOVICH, DEPT FOR SCA/PB AND SCA/FO, USAID, PEACE CORPS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/12/2019 TAGS: PREL AORC ICJ KVIR BG

SUBJECT: BANGLADESH STILL CONSIDERING RECOGNITION OF KOSOVO

REF: A. STATE 11928 ¶B. 09 DHAKA 70

Classified By: DCM Geeta Pasi. Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) The Embassy will deliver Ref A demarche on February 16, which is the earliest time available for the relevant contact at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Please note that the Ambassador, in his January 15 meeting with the Foreign Minister, Dipu Moni, urged the GoB to recognize Kosovo and underscored similarities between Kosovo and Bangladesh's quest for independence from Pakistan in 1971 (Ref B). Minister Moni promised to consult with GoB leaders on the matter. Assistant Secretary Boucher also raised the issue in his February 8 meeting with the Foreign Minister. The Foreign Minister responded that her government was considering Kosovo recognition. We will report the response from next week's meeting and any progress on this issue. We will continue to press the new government to recognize Kosovo.

MORIARTY